



Committee Members

Bob Archey, Chair • VaNessa Duplessie, Vice-Chair
Pete Kmet • Bill Rickard • Art Coulombe
Carl Weimer • Ron Schmitt • Tim Sweeney
Andrew Martonick • Duane Henderson • Grant Jensen
Dave Knoelke • Corey Herrick • Jody Morehouse



Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

Meeting Minutes

Washington State Investment Board

2100 Evergreen Park Drive, Olympia, WA 98504

June 10, 2010

Present members:

Bob Archey, Chair
Pete Kmet
Carl Weimer
Art Coulombe
Ron Schmitt
Tim Sweeney
Andrew Martonick
Jody Morehouse
Corey Herrick
Duane Henderson

Absent members:

VaNessa Duplessie, Vice-Chair
Bill Rickard
Grant Jensen
Dave Knoelke

Other attendees:

Jeff Goltz, UTC Chair
Steve King, UTC Safety and Consumer Protection Director
David Lykken, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Jim Fernald, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Alan Lundeen, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Kelli Gustaf, Dept. of Ecology
Ryan Paulsen, Dept. of Ecology
Rick Kuprewicz, Accufacts Inc.
Sandra Davis, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Gayle Kiser, Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC)
Brad Tower, Olympic Pipeline
Dan Kirshner, Northwest Gas Association (NWGA)
Johan Victor, Pergam Technical Services
Ruth Mabrey, Williams Northwest Pipeline

Agenda Items:

1. **Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of March 25, 2010 Meeting Minutes**
 - The meeting was brought to order by Bob Archey who welcomed all attendees. All members and meeting attendees including three new Governor appointees introduced themselves. The new members listed below gave a brief summary of their background and why they chose to seek membership on the committee:

Jody Morehouse – Industry representative from Avista Utilities, Spokane, WA.
Corey Herrick – Industry representative from McChord Pipeline, Tacoma, WA.
Tim Sweeney – Citizen representative from Olympia, WA.
Andrew Martonick – Citizen representative from Walla Walla, WA.

In a unanimous vote, the committee adopted the March 25, 2010 meeting minutes as written.

Jeff Goltz, UTC Chair thanked the departing members and welcomed the new appointees to the committee. Chairman Goltz also discussed the importance of pipeline safety and the role the committee has in supporting and advising the UTC on pipeline matters.

- **Quick Update on Action Task List Status**
 - a) CCOPS Workplan and update on the collection of local pipeline issues by CCOPS member – *Part of the agenda (Item # 9).*
 - b) 2008-2009 CCOPS Draft Annual Report – *Part of the agenda (Item # 2).*

2. **2008-2009 CCOPS Draft Annual Report**

Bob reported that due to the delay in receiving the draft annual report, the document will be sent to members via email for their review. All comments and recommendations need to be submitted to VaNessa for consideration.

Bob suggested including workplan elements and tasks that have been accomplished in 2008 and 2009 as well as future goals and workplan items.

3. **Potential Fall Mini-Conference on Damage Prevention in WA State**

Carl talked about an idea raised during the last CCOPS meeting pertaining to ways the committee can help in providing education about pipeline safety to the community and new committee members. A proposal was made to hold a mini conference. Topic ideas for the conference include educating committee members and the public about pipeline safety (Pipeline 101) and important issues currently facing Washington, such as Damage Prevention.

Since the WA Utilities Coordinating Council (WUCC) is holding the “2010 Joint States Meeting” at the Mountaineers Club in Tacoma on September 15 (full day) & 16 (half day), it is proposed to extend the duration of WUCC conference on the last day to hold a CCOPS mini conference. There would be no cost for the building usage as it’s already paid by WUCC. This mini conference can focus on damage prevention in Washington State. The Pipeline Safety Trust offered to help provide the logistics and asked the committee to develop the agenda.

A majority of members agreed to add this conference to the workplan. Areas to consider for the conference would be:

- Who is the target audience?
- What kind of information and materials to be provided?
- Is this mini conference considered part of CCOPS September meeting?

Corey and Ruth Mabrey offered to provide the Pipeline 101 information as conference materials.

Grant, Carl, Ron and Corey offered to plan and coordinate this mini conference.

Pipeline Safety Reauthorization Hearings in Washington, D.C.

Carl reported that he testified before the House of Representatives on May 20, 2010 on the reauthorization of the federal pipeline safety law. During the hearing, numerous questions were raised by representatives that included:

- How to prevent the oil spill in the Gulf.
- Why does PHMSA let the industry write their own regulation's.
- Why PHMSA has not implemented requirements requested by Congress.

During Carl's testimony, he was questioned on the adequacy of Spill Response Plans for pipelines. The testimony was distributed to members. (*This document is posted on the CCOPS and Pipeline Trust websites*). Carl also offered to keep members advised as to future hearings on this topic.

Update on the Land Use Near Pipelines Grant with the AWC

Carl gave a brief update on the work progress related to the PHMSA Technical Assistance Grant. (In 2009, the AWC, in partnership with seven other entities, was awarded a \$50,000 Community Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) to raise awareness among local governments of land use practices around pipelines and to provide technical assistance to local governments).

Carl listed tasks that are planned or have been accomplished to date:

- Conferences with local government planners;
- AWC conference in June 2010;
- Powerpoint presentation is now available on the MRSC website (<http://www.mrsc.org/Subjects/PubSafe/transpipes.aspx#Presentations>) ; and
- A proposed land use ordinance in Whatcom County.

4. **SEPA Checklist Guidance Document**

A memo from Bill Rickard and Kelli Gustaff was distributed to members for review and comments. This memo consists of the proposed amendatory language to the guidance document for the SEPA checklist. (*This document is posted on the CCOPS website*).

In response to member questions on how the pipeline distance of 660 feet from the project site was determined, Carl explained that the 660 feet (1/8th mile) is the radius of the potential impact circle that is used in the code of federal regulations in identifying the High Consequence Areas (HCA).

Members agreed to edit and add the following to the proposed language:

- Add the definition of "hazardous liquid" and "natural gas transmission pipeline" per federal regulation;
- Within the second sentence, add "... liquid transmission..." (eg. "*This includes underground hazardous liquid transmission....*");
- Keep 660 feet as the pipeline distance and add a footnote for the basis behind "660 feet";
- Add a footnote on the consultation zone guidelines and recommendations ; and
- Add a general comment addressing methods to reduce, control and mitigate impact on the pipeline and therefore, environmental health hazards.

Marina requested Kelli to email her a copy of the SEPA checklist to be posted to the CCOPS website.

Kelli will update Bill on this discussion and the revised draft language will be emailed to members for review and comment. Members need to provide feedback to Kelli and Bill within two weeks of receiving the document.

5. **Public Comments** *(added agenda)*

- Gayle Kiser, Cowlitz County resident representing Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC) provided an update on Bradwood Landing LNG and outlet piping project. In early May, the company proposing this project (Northern Star) filed chapter 7 (bankruptcy). There are still lawsuits pending on this proposal.
- Sandra Davis, Cowlitz County resident representing Landowners and Citizens for a Safe Community (LCSC) thanked the Committee for their response to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and other efforts to educate the citizens over the last three years. Ms. Davis asked a question of industry representatives concerning pipeline easements that are thought to be perpetual. She wondered if after the easements are granted, whether those easements are ever returned to the property owner if the pipeline is abandoned or no longer needed. Response from the companies indicates that there is no standard. It will vary upon the respective written easement agreement, and the individual circumstances.
- Rick Kuprewicz with Accufacts, Inc. expressed his thoughts about the importance of the committee role in the State of Washington. During the legislature's consideration of this committee's future, Rick composed a letter outlining the four major issues on which the committee should focus:
 - Third Party Damage. Rick feels Washington Dig Law is one of the weakest in the country;
 - Public right-to-know and transparency;
 - Attempt to dilute Integrity Management (liquid and gas) and DIMP (Distribution Integrity Management Program); and
 - Serious gap related to construction standards on transmission pipelines.
- Carl reminded the committee that today is the 11th year anniversary of Bellingham tragedy. The parents of the boys who died in the tragedy contacted Carl and asked him to thank the committee on its work and efforts that have contributed to pipeline safety.

Carl reported that he just received notification that the U.S. Senate will be holding a hearing on PHMSA Reauthorization on June 24, 2010. The Trust is invited to testify.

6. **Election of the Vice-Chair**

In a unanimous vote, Ron Schmitt was elected as a vice-chair. In accordance to the bylaws, his term will commence immediately.

7. **Committee Recognition Awards**

David Lykken presented Certificates of Appreciation to Duane Henderson, Mayor Pete Kmet and Bob Archey for their time and dedicated service to the committee.

8. **Leak Detection Presentation (Pergam Technical Services)**

Johan Victor with Pergam Technical Services gave a slide presentation on the latest updates regarding the gas leak detection methods and benefits of utilizing the ALMA (Airborne Laser Methane Assessment) and SELMA (Vehicle based Methane Detection) system. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website).*

9. **UTC Update (David Lykken)**

PHMSA Audit – The field audit was completed during the week of May 17. The McChord Pipeline standard inspection was audited for the liquid portion. Crew inspections in Enumclaw and Ellensburg were audited for the gas portion of the field inspection. Preliminary audit findings noted a two point deduction due to UTC staff's alleged failure to have the inspection checklist in hand during the inspection. Dave plans on discussing this further with PHMSA during the upcoming NAPSRS – Western Region meeting.

PHMSA and NAPSRS Conference – PHMSA and NAPSRS are hosting a public awareness workshop on June 30 in St. Louis. The workshop will be available via webcast.

2010 Inspection Workplan – Currently on schedule. Approximately 37 inspections are scheduled for 2010. UTC also has been involved with a number of Joint States Inspections with PHMSA. No federal incidents have been reported to date.

WA Utility Coordinating Council (WUCC) and Northwest Common Ground Alliance (NWCGA) Conferences – WUCC is hosting a spring conference on June 16 & 17 in Yakima. NWCGA is hosting a meeting in Portland on July 13. Interested members are welcome to participate. The UTC will reimburse travel expenses for members wishing to volunteer as a CCOPS representative.

10. **2010-2011 CCOPS Workplan**

The 2010-2011 CCOPS Workplan was distributed to members for review. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website)*

The committee has established three major areas of focus:

- **Community & Committee Education & Involvement**
 - WA Pipeline Safety conference – strike reference to “2 day.”
 - Pipeline Safety Website Review – Tim agreed to lead this process.
 - Face-To-Face Interaction with Local Government – Art briefed the committee on his interaction with Walla Walla City Council. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website).* Bob recommended adopting the template and fact sheet used by Art for member's guidance. Tim Sweeney offered to take the assignment for Lewis and Thurston Counties.

- Orientation and Training CCOPS members with special emphasis on new members – Pete suggested creating a document outlining terms and the role & responsibility of governmental regulation of pipeline safety.
- Pipeline Safety Oversight
 - Committee discussed the role in federal regulation and legislation concerning pipeline. Tim suggested an outreach to our local delegation to offer the committee as a resource. He volunteered to get the point of contact with Representative Rick Larsen and Senator Maria Cantwell.
- Committee Policy Initiatives
 - Tim requested an update on the status of the Small Gas Study conducted by UTC.

Bob will update the workplan based on discussion today.

11. **Public Comments**

Brad Tower provided a brief update on the work of Dig Law Work Group.

12. **Instructions Related to Boards & Commissions Bill E2SHB 2617**

Dave Lykken distributed guidance issued by the Office of Financial Management (OFM) on May 25, 2010 relative to Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2617. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website)*. This document provides instructions to executive branch agency for implementing this bill relative to boards and commissions.

CCOPS falls under the class one group funded by sources other than the state general fund. Therefore, beginning July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, boards/committee are encouraged to reduce travel, lodging or other costs associated with the group, including the use of other meeting formats that do not require travel.

The bill also requires the agency to submit a report to OFM by July 15, 2010 outlining how the agency has met the target reduction in cost for meeting dates from July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Given this requirement, the committee was asked to think carefully about the planned conference on Damage Prevention in September. Dave will distribute a copy of the draft OFM report to members.

13. **Next Meeting Location, Agenda and Other Business**

The committee agreed scheduling the future meetings on the following dates:

- September 16, 2010 (Placeholder), Olympia, WA.
- November 17, 2010 (Placeholder), Olympia, WA.

Other Business – UTC will send out a solicitation letter seeking new membership for Bob Archey's position.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.